

House Republican Press Release

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Reps. Ruwet, Miner Vote for Reforms to Open the System



Express Disappointment at Majority's Failure to Adopt Proposed Changes

State Reps. Anne L. Ruwet, R-65th and Craig Miner, R-66th, strongly supported a package of legislative reforms to open up the legislative process to greater public view and expressed disappointment that the legislature failed to adopt the changes.

Reps. Ruwet and Miner joined 50 House Republican colleagues in supporting major changes in the joint rules of the state House and Senate, on opening day of the 2005 legislative session. The rules changes included:

- Ending legislative sessions at midnight
- Consolidating the legislature's 27 committees
- Conducting budget negotiations in public
- Requiring legislation to be published 72 hours before a floor vote
- Mandating a public hearing prior to any tax increases

Rep. Ruwet said, "I am extremely disappointed that these reforms failed to pass. They were reasonable amendments to open up the process, especially requiring a public hearing before an taxes can be increased."

Rep. Miner said, "These were very simple changes and common sense suggestions. They would provide for more orderly conduct of the people's business and better disclosure to the public."

Rep. Ruwet serves the 65th Assembly District of Torrington and Rep. Miner represents the 66gth District of Bethlehem, Litchfield, Morris, Warren, and Woodbury in the state House of Representatives.